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COYOTES CAPTAIN SHANE DOAN CITY'S SPECIAL GUEST FOR 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF GLENDALÉ GLITTERS NOVEMBER 29

GLENDALÉ, Ariz. – Coyotes Captain Shane Doan will join Glendale Mayor and Council on stage on Friday, Nov. 29, to flip the switch for Glendale Glitters' 1.5 million lights, kicking off the holiday season and celebrating the annual event's 20th anniversary.

Twenty years ago, Glendale debuted its hometown holiday light display in historic Murphy Park, expanding on a traditional tree-lighting event that took place in the early days of Glendale's history. Today, the event has grown to become a beloved holiday tradition that draws more than 200,000 people annually over a several week period. The first event was attended by about 10,000 people. Today, the event is attended by 75,000 people during opening weekend. The first year, there were 25,000 lights in the park. Today, there are 1.5 million lights spanning sixteen blocks.

For the special celebration on opening night on Friday, Nov. 29 at 5:30 p.m., the *'Countdown to Glendale Glitters'* stage show will feature a video tribute to 20 years of the holiday event in which past special guests were invited to participate, including Hall of Fame broadcaster and Voice of the Phoenix Suns Al McCoy, who participated in the inaugural year's festivities in 1994, and Governor Jan Brewer, who appeared for the event during Arizona's Centennial year. Both McCoy and Brewer are residents of Glendale. In addition, the show will feature a performance by The Dancing Dads, a group that performed in 1994, among other entertainers. The program culminates with special celebrity guest, Shane Doan of the Phoenix Coyotes. He will join Glendale Mayor and councilmembers to turn on the switch to 1.5 million lights.

Team captain \ for the past nine seasons, Doan also has the longest tenure of any current player on the team and has played 17 seasons in the NHL. Highlights of his career include being named an NHL All Star in 2004 and 2009, and playing for Team Canada in the 2006 Olympics. In addition, Doan is a respected community member off the ice, winning the Mark Messier Leadership Award in 2012. This award, selected by the former hockey legend, is awarded to an NHL player who has demonstrated superior leadership within their sport, and who leads by positive example through on-ice performance, motivation of team members and a dedication to community activities and charitable causes.

The award-winning festival, which is the largest free holiday light display in the state of Arizona, runs both Friday, Nov. 29 and Saturday, Nov. 30, 5-10 p.m. each evening. Free shuttles are available all evening long from the north lots at Glendale Community College, 59th and Olive avenues. Preferred parking is also available in the two downtown parking garages for \$10.

Glitters 20th Anniversary

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Additional highlights of the festivities will include musical and dance performances, delectable food, hand-crafted holiday gifts, a children's snow field, pony rides, petting zoo, inflatables and other rides, and of course, visits with Jolly Ol' St. Nick.

Visitors will also want to explore the charming shops and restaurants located throughout downtown Glendale. From a comic book store, to women's boutiques and an astrology store, shoppers are sure to find unique gifts for everyone on their list. Several critically-acclaimed, independently-owned restaurants make their home in downtown Glendale as well, and provide the perfect location for family gatherings before, during or after the festival. For a complete list of downtown shops and restaurants, visit www.visitglendale.com.

The entertainment lineup for Glendale Glitters Spectacular includes:

Friday, Nov. 29

5:30 *'Countdown to Glendale Glitters'*
7:15 Marilyn Burns Dancers
8:15 Spotlight Youth Theatre
9:15 On Stage Dance

Saturday, Nov. 30

5:00 Aloha Hapa Hula
6:00 Grand Canyon University, Dance
 Education Organization
7:00 Creative Cheer
8:00 Copper King Honors Choir
9:00 Leap of Faith Dance +

The holiday merriment continues with more events in downtown Glendale, each Friday and Saturday through Dec. 21, from 6-10 p.m. each evening. The themed December Weekends include: Dec. 6-7 Glendale's Spirit of Giving Weekend; Dec. 13-14 Glendale's Winter Wonderland Weekend; and Dec. 20-21 Glendale's Jingle Bell Rockin' Nights.

Glendale's holiday display remains lit nightly through Jan. 11, from 5 - 10 p.m. each evening. Historic Downtown Glendale is located at 58th and Glendale avenues. For more information, call the Special Event Hotline at 623-930-2299, or visit www.glendaleaz.com/events. To learn more about the history and evolution of Glendale Glitters, watch this video on YouTube: www.glendaleaz.com/glitters.

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